

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 120

By Miller J

A RESOLUTION to congratulate W. Allen Jones, Jr., upon receiving the Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce's M.C. Headrick Free Enterprise Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as business and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is W. Allan Jones, Jr., who was recently recognized by the Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce with the M.C. Headrick Free Enterprise Award; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce selected Mr. Jones for his steadfast dedication to the free enterprise system, his entrepreneurial spirit, and his passion for his hometown; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones credits his father, the late W.A. (Bill) Jones with instilling in him the strong work ethic and self-confidence that have allowed him to form two new companies in the Cleveland area; and

WHEREAS, W. Allan Jones, Jr., founded Jones Properties, LLC, in 1973, in order to provide assistance in his envisioned refurbishing of Cleveland's downtown and the revitalization

of that community's business district; through Jones Properties, Mr. Jones purchased several commercial and residential properties in downtown Cleveland and began renovations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones became a pioneer in the payday cash-advance industry when he founded Check into Cash, Inc., in 1993; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones has also been an industry leader in working to adopt legislation to regulate cash advances in order to protect and better serve customers; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work with his two businesses, Mr. Jones still finds time to lend his remarkable talents to environmental work and community philanthropy in Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, as the first Chairman of the Cleveland Tree Board, Mr. Jones initiated a "No Topping Zone" policy for the city and helped to author the Tree Ordinance; for his work in such capacity, Mr. Jones has been recognized by the Mayor's office by assuring him that the city will maintain its Tree City status, a National Arbor Foundation designation; and

WHEREAS, a high school wrestling enthusiast, W. Allan Jones, Jr., founded and financed the first Cleveland/Bradley Wrestling Club and contributes annually to help deserving young wrestlers by providing uniforms or camp scholarships; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones also serves with great distinction on a number of boards, including the Bradley Healthcare Foundation, the Cleveland Family YMCA, and Cleveland State Community College Foundation; and

WHEREAS, he is also a member of the Tennessee Urban Forest Council, the Kiwanis Club of Cleveland, the Business Roundtable, the Cleveland Country Club, the Cleveland BPOE Elks Lodge 144, the Cleveland One Hundred, the Cleveland/Bradley Wrestling Club, the USA Wrestling Association, and the Arnold School Parent-Teacher Association; and

WHEREAS, in his tireless dedication to the revitalization of the Cleveland community business district, W. Allan Jones, Jr., also founded and twice served as president of MainStreet

Cleveland, an organization whose mission is to preserve the history of downtown Cleveland and to revitalize its businesses; and

WHEREAS, W. Allan Jones, Jr., epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud W. Allan Jones, Jr., for his dedication to the people of Cleveland; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend W. Allan Jones, Jr., for his meritorious service to the people of Cleveland, congratulate him upon being recognized by the Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce with the M.C. Headrick Free Enterprise Award, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.